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### More Corn & Soybeans Expected

**Maryland:** Acres planted for **corn** is forecast at 500,000 acres for the 2002 crop year, up 2 percent from last year's final estimate of 490,000 acres, and 4 percent from 2000's final estimate of 480,000 acres. The five year average for corn planted acres comes to almost 485,000 acres. The banner year in the last five years is 1997 with 510,000 acres of corn planted. Maryland producers intend to plant 525,000 of **soybeans**, up 1 percent from 2001's and 2000's final estimate of 520,000 acres. The five year average for soybean planting totals just over 505,000 acres. This year is the highest year for soybeans planted since 1997 when 530,000 acres were planted.

For small grains, **winter wheat** planting is estimated at 195,000 acres, unchanged from the December seeding forecast and up 5,000 acres from last year. **Barley** planted acreage remains at 55,000 acres, no change from last year. For the 2002 crop year, **sorghum** planting intentions are forecast at 7,000 acres, a little more than 20% decrease from last year's estimate of 9,000 acres.

Maryland **tobacco** acreage is forecast at 1,700 acres, down about 10 percent from the 2001 estimate of 1,900. All **hay** harvested acres are forecast at 235,000, up 10,000 acres from last year's final estimate of 225,000 acres.

**United States:** Corn growers intend to plant 79.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2002, up 4 percent from 2001 but down 1 percent from 2000. Expected acreage is up in many areas of the United States and in virtually all areas of the Corn Belt. Compared to last year when producers had problems getting their crops in due to persistent precipitation, conditions so far this year have been cooperative and have increased farmer's hopes of planting their corn crop on time. Farmers intend to plant fewer corn acres than last year in Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Colorado because of concerns about dry conditions.

Soybean producers intend to plant 73.0 million acres, down 2 percent from last year. Reduced soybean acreage was offset by an expected increase in corn plantings in most areas. Crop rotations, farm bill uncertainty, and price considerations were cited as primary reasons for the reduced soybean acreage. Producers in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas intend to shift from cotton to soybeans. Expected acreage in North Dakota is up 450,000 acres from last year replacing wheat acreage.

All wheat planted area is expected to total 59.0 million acres in 2002. This is down 1 percent from 2001 and the lowest level since 1972. Area planted to Durum wheat is intended to total 2.84 million acres, down 2 percent from 2001. The 2002 other spring wheat planted acreage is estimated at 15.1 million acres, down 3 percent from last year. Of the total, about 14.2 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Winter wheat planted area for the 2002 crop is 41.1 million acres, nearly identical to the previous year's acreage. This is the lowest acres seeded to winter wheat since 1971.

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# ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 2001 AND 2002

Commodity	Unit	Planted		Harvested		Average Yield		Production	
		2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
<b>Maryland</b>		<i>1,000 Acres</i>						<i>1,000</i>	
Corn <sup>1</sup>	ACR	490	500	---	---	---	---	---	---
Corn Grain	BU	---	---	410	---	136	---	55,760	---
Corn Silage	TON	---	---	75	---	15	---	1,125	---
Soybeans	BU	520	525	515	---	39	---	20,085	---
Sorghum <sup>1</sup>	BU	9	7	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sorghum Grain	BU	---	---	8	---	83	---	664	---
Sorghum Silage	TON	---	---	1	---	14	---	14	---
Winter Wheat	BU	190	195	175	---	63	---	11,025	---
Barley	BU	55	55	51	---	75	---	3,825	---
All Hay	TON	---	---	225	235	2.3	---	522	---
Alfalfa Hay	TON	---	---	65	---	3.1	---	202	---
Other Hay	TON	---	---	160	---	2.0	---	320	---
Tobacco	LBS	---	---	1.9	1.7	1,450	---	2,755	---
Potatoes,Summer	CWT	4.8	---	4.7	---	250	---	1,175	---
<b>United States</b>									
Corn <sup>1</sup>	ACR	75,752	79,047	---	---	---	---	---	---
Corn Grain	BU	---	---	68,808	---	138.2	---	9,507	---
Corn Silage	TON	---	---	6,148	---	17	---	102	---
Soybeans	BU	74,105	72,966	73,000	---	39.6	---	2,891	---
Sorghum <sup>1</sup>	BU	10,252	9,015	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sorghum Grain	BU	---	---	8,584	---	59.9	---	515	---
Sorghum Silage	TON	---	---	336	---	11.1	---	4	---
Wheat, Winter	BU	41,078	41,076	31,295	---	43.5	---	1,361	---
Barley	BU	4,967	5,078	4,289	---	58.2	---	250	---
All Hay	TON	---	---	63,511	63,743	2.47	---	157	---
Alfalfa Hay	TON	---	---	23,812	---	3.37	---	80	---
Other Hay	TON	---	---	39,699	---	1.93	---	76	---
Tobacco	LBS	---	---	432.6	429.4	2,314	---	1,001	---
Potatoes,Summer	CWT	60.9	---	58.6	---	309	---	18.1	---

<sup>1</sup> Acres planted is for all purposes.